DTS Tech Watch

Survey of Relevant New Technology

Chief Technology Office Department of Technology Services State of Utah

Prepared by

David G. Fletcher

and

Robert Woolley





New Terabyte Drives

There are a growing number of new terabyte drives on the market. Seagate announced a series of new drives last week.

Seagate Barracuda ES.2

The Barracuda 7200.11 is a 3.5-inch format drive, which spins at 7200rpm and holds 500GB, 750GB or 1TB of data. Its sustained data rate of 105MB/s is the highest ever attained for a desktop drive and it is also the world's quietest desktop drive. Conceptually the 1TB drive is four 250GB platters using Seagate's second generation perpendicular recording technology. The interface is serial ATA (SATA) II running at 3GB/s. The Barracuda ES.2 is the enterprise version of the drive with improved mean time before failure of 1.2 million hours, compared to the consumer version's 1 million hours. It has both SATA and SAS (serial attached SCSI) interfaces and comes in 250GB, 500GB, 750GB, and 1TB configurations.

Kyte.tv

Kyte.tv allows users to broadcast in real time, adding a variety of content through an easy-to-use interface. The system allows for immediate broadcast and includes online chat capabilities to make the broadcast entirely interactive. Imagery, audio, polls, and other kinds of objects can be dragged onto the broadcast screen. Participants can create their own live broadcasts in response to the original.

iPhone

The new Apple iPhone was released on Friday, June 29th. It is assumed that some users will begin to request these devices as alternatives to other PDAs.

GODORT 50-State Database Wiki

The American Library Association is seeking participation in their GODORT database wiki which is an attempt to provide better access to state databases.

Microsoft Silverlight

Microsoft Silverlight (code-named Windows Presentation Foundation/Everywhere, or WPF/E) is a proprietary runtime for browser-based Rich Internet Applications, providing a subset of the animation, vector graphics, and video playback capabilities of Windows Presentation Foundation. Version 1.1 also includes a complete version of the .NET Common Language Runtime, named CoreCLR, so that Silverlight applications can be written in any .NET language.

The latest release is version 1.0 beta, with an alpha release of version 1.1 available as well. The runtime is available for Windows XP, Windows Server 2003, Windows Vista, and Mac OS X 10.4, with browser plug-ins available for Internet Explorer 6.0/7.0, Firefox 1.5/2.0, and Safari 2.0. Opera is not supported in the current releases, but will be supported with future builds, as will be Windows 2000. Additional platforms are being considered as well.

Silverlight aims to compete with Adobe Flash and the presentation components of Ajax. It also competes with Sun Microsystems' JavaFX, which was launched a few days after Silverlight.

SURIN Update

UEN is providing access to their IP Control tool to SURIN users so we can view assignments of IP blocks to customers. ARIN has announced that 91% of available IPv4 addresses have now been assigned and is pushing for plans to be made for use of IPv6 space to address impending shortage. Currently, almost all UEN-controlled IPv4 (about 2.5 million) addresses are assigned, with just about 50% in use.

Google 411

A few months ago Google launched 1-800-GOOG-411 (1-800-466-4411) in the U.S. It's a free telephone service that lets you search for businesses by voice and get connected to those businesses for free.

On Friday, the GOOG-411 experience got better: during your call to GOOG-411, just say "map it," and you'll get a text message with the details of your search, plus a link to a map of your results, right on your mobile phone.

Microsoft Live Healthcare

"We think people will want their records on their PC, but also on a secure server in the cloud, where you could give physicians access to them, if you choose to do so." Microsoft is, indeed, readying a consumer healthcare platform, confirmed Steve Shihadeh, General Manager for Sales, Marketing, and Solutions with Microsoft's Health Solutions Group. "We are focused on both the enterprise and consumer space."

This potential entry of Microsoft into the eHealth arena may have implications for how personal health records are managed online.

Windows Cardspace

Windows CardSpace, formerly known by its codename InfoCard, is a framework developed by Microsoft which securely stores digital identities of a person, and provides a unified interface for choosing the identity for a particular transaction, such as logging in to a Web site. Windows CardSpace is a central part of Microsoft's effort to create an Identity Metasystem, or a unified, secure, and interoperable identity layer for the Internet.

Representative John Dougall would like DTS to help coordinate a task force that would look at the applicability of using the drivers license as a token for identification on the Web in services such as Cardspace.

Google's New Translation Service

This new service allows the user to drag translate buttons directly to the toolbar for single click translation. This works very well with Utah.gov and other State sites.

Eclipse—Major Update

Eclipse is an open source community, whose projects are focused on building an open development platform comprised of extensible frameworks, tools, and runtimes for building, deploying, and managing software across the lifecycle. A significant new upgrade of the Eclipse development platform, designated Web Tools Platform (WTP) 2.0, was released on June 29th. The release, code named Europa, consists of more than 17 million lines of code and the contributions of over 310 open source developers located in 19 different countries. New download options have been created to provide complete download packages for users requiring a Java IDE, JEE IDE, C/C++ IDE, and an SDK for RCP and Plugin developer. Eclipse is widely supported by major vendor development environments including IBM, BEA, and many other vendors.

ITIL v3

The ITIL v3 refresh project began with the publication of five new core texts and a Web based glossary on May 30, 2007. ITIL version 3 represents a number of changes and a key focus on IT and business alignment. ITIL v3 emphasizes the management of IT throughout the complete lifecycle, and the importance of creating business value, rather than just the execution of processes.